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HEALTH
A 22 SEP 1945
C.R.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

HUNTINGDON

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR

1944

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BY

J. R. GARROOD

M.D., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health to the Huntingdon
Rural District Council*

HUNTINGDON:

PRINTED BY W. H. SMITH & SON, LTD., HIGH STREET.

**Public Health Officers of the Huntingdon Rural
District Council.**

Part-time Medical Officer: J. R. GARROOD, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector: W. MIDWOOD, C.R.S.I.

*Part-time Analytical Chemist: SOLOMON GREENBURGH, ESQ., and
The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service.*

*Pathologist: DR. HARVEY and Emergency Public Health Laboratory
Service.*

**To the
Huntingdon Rural District Council.**

Alconbury Hill.

Gentlemen,

*I beg to submit my Annual Report for the
year 1944.*

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. R. GARROOD.

REPORT

ON THE

HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT FOR 1944.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

War conditions have not allowed of much progress with the Housing Scheme nor even of necessary repairs. Shortage of men is an unanswerable excuse.

The presence of an aerodrome and three large landing grounds and a P.W. camp, with the consequent introduction of large bodies of Service men, British, Allied and other, may have given rise to apprehension of epidemic disease, but though they mixed freely with the civilians no such epidemic arose.

Another source of anxiety was the disposal of sewage from these sites. At first, when the numbers were large and the plants and their attendants had hardly settled down, there was a definite nuisance. However, by vigorous representations the Council got things remedied.

There are two Land Army Hostels and one Ministry of Health Hostel for aged invalids in the area. These establishments have been well kept and worked satisfactorily.

It was decided to extend the catchment area for the Council's wall at Houghton and to take steps to prevent gravel digging with its risk of interference with the subsoil water.

Housing sites were selected at many of the villages and preparations made for building as soon as possible after the end of the war.

The houses with concrete floors are not a success. The occupants complain of condensation and say they are very cold.

A committee of Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors was formed in the County to formulate a standard of Rural Housing. A commencement was made in this work.

The Regional Water Scheme, in spite of the very great demands made upon it, has been very satisfactory. The figures set out by Mr. Midwood make interesting reading when it is remembered that the well from which all this water is pumped is only 26 feet deep. The Council is very fortunate, but additional borings have been made to augment the supply if necessary.

Twelve Bacteriological Analyses were made. All showed the absence of *Bacillus Coli*, the presence of which indicates contamination with excreta.

Estimated Population 7071

Live Births.

Total—Male, 81 ; Female, 78.

Legitimate—Male, 71 ; Female, 69.

Illegitimate—Male, 10 ; Female, 9.

Birth rate per 1,000 population, 22.4. England and Wales, 17.6.

Still Births.

Total—Male, 3 ; Female, 6.

Legitimate—Male, 2 ; Female, 4.

Illegitimate—Male, 1 ; Female, 2.

Rate per 1,000 total births, 56.6.

Deaths.

Death rate per 1,000 population, 14 England and Wales, 11.6.

Death rate from Puerperal causes, 0.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—

Total—Male, 4 ; Female, 4.

Legitimate—Male, 3 ; Female, 4.

Illegitimate—Male, 1 ; Female, 0.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	50.3
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This compares with England and Wales	46.0
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Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	50.0
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Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	52.6
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Causes of Death—

	M.	F.
Whooping Cough	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Œsoph. (m.), Uterus (f.)	2	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	1
Cancer of Breast	—	4
Cancer of all other sites	2	4
Diabetes	1	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	3	1
Heart Disease	16	14
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...	4	1
Bronchitis	2	—
Pneumonia	—	2
Diarrhœa under 2 years	1	—

Causes of Death (*continued*)—

Other Digestive Diseases	1	2
Nephritis	—	1
Premature Birth	2	2
Con. Mal. Birth Injury Infantile Disease ...	1	1
Other Violent Causes	1	1
All Other Causes	4	7
All Causes	43	56

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To J. R. GARROOD, ESQ.

ALCONBURY HILL,
16/7/45.

Herewith is a summary of work caused to be done during 1944.

Total number of Inspections made ...	1483
Notices served	107
(Informal, 118; Statutory, 11.)	
Complaints received	Total No. of 63
Premises, houses, etc.	No. inspected 430
	Nuisances abated 185
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse ...	No. inspected 37
	Nuisances abated 25
Animals improperly kept	No. inspected Nil
	Nuisances abated Nil
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit ...	No. inspected 36
	Nuisances abated 33
Drain, drain-traps, etc., etc. ...	No. inspected 23
	Nuisances abated 23
House, or part thereof, overcrowded	No. inspected (See Housing Act, 1936)
	Nuisances abated Nil
Smoke nuisances	No. of observations Nil
	Nuisances abated Nil
Offensive accumulations	No. inspected 5
	Nuisances abated 4
Other sanitary conditions	No. inspected Nil
	Nuisances abated Nil
Lodging houses	No. registered Nil
	No. of inspections Nil
Slaughter houses	No. licensed or registered ... 6
	No. of inspections 51
Offensive trades (sec. 112 P. Health Act, 1875)	No. established Nil
	No. of inspections Nil
Canal Boats	No. registered Nil
	No. of inspections Nil
	No. with infectious diseases on board Nil
Public Health Act, 1875	No. of houses condemned ... Nil
	No. closed Nil
	No. cleaned and limewashed ... Nil
Food—seizures of unwholesome ...	No. of Nil

Infectious Disease (excluding
measles and whooping-cough) ...

Houses affected with ... 40
Houses inspected ... 40
No. of inspections ... 65
Houses disinfected ... 8
Schools disinfected ... Nil
Disinfectant used—

Formalin and Cresol

Lots of clothing disinfected 8
Lots of clothing destroyed Nil

Privy middens

New provided ... Nil
No. repaired ... Nil
No. converted to pails ... Nil
No. converted to W.C.s ... Nil

Pail or earth closets

New provided ... 3
No. converted to W.C.s ... 3

Water closets

New provided ... 23
No. supplied with water ... 15

Ashpits

New provided ... Nil
No. converted to ashbins ... Nil

Ashbins

New provided ... 9

Water supply

Samples taken for analysis 25

Samples condemned ... Nil

Wells closed ... Nil

Wells cleansed, repaired, etc. 15

Public supply substituted for
well or pond ... 56

Cisterns cleansed, repaired,
covered ... 3

Waste pipes disconnected
from drain ... 5

No. houses closed ... Nil

No. houses made habitable Nil

No. houses demolished ... Nil

16/6/39

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FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1937.

Factories

Total number on register
(including bakehouses) ... 28

No. in which nuisances
abated ... 2

Bakehouses

No. on register ... 11

No. in which nuisance
abated ... 1

Home Work

No. of outworkers ... Nil

No. of houses ... Nil

No. of infected houses ... Nil

Legal Proceedings,
i.e., Summonses, etc.

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W. MIDWOOD,
Sanitary Inspector.

J. R. GARROOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT on WATER SUPPLY for the HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT for the Year 1944.

Name of Town, Village or Hamlet	Source of Supply, viz.:— Public Supply, Wells or Ponds, etc.	Sufficiency or otherwise	Quality of Water	Whether Analysis has been made during the year and the result of any such Analysis
Abbots Ripton	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Alconbury	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Alconbury Weston	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Barham	Private Supplies	...	Poor	No
Brampton	Private Supplies	...	Poor	No
Brington	Spring	...	Good	No
Buckworth	3 Wells	...	Good	No
Bythorn	Wells	...	Good	No
Conington	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Coppingford	Pump, Well and Pond	...	Good	No
Easton	Pump and Well	...	Doubtful	No
Ellington	3 Wells	...	Good	No
Great Gidding	Piped Supply	...	Doubtful	No
Great Raveley	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Great Stukeley	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Hamerton	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Keyston	Well	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Kings Ripton	Piped Supply	...	Good	No
Leighton	3 Pumps from Wells	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Little Gidding	1 Well and Private Supplies	...	Fair	Yes—Satisfactory
Little Raveley	Piped Supply	...	Poor	No
Little Stukeley	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Molesworth	Springs and Wells	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Old Weston	2 Wells and Spring	...	Good	No
Sawtry	Piped Supply	...	Fair	No
Spaldwick	2 Pumps from Wells	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Steeple Gidding	Private Supplies	...	Good	No
Upton	Piped Supply	...	Poor	No
Upwood	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Winwick	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory
Woodwalton	Piped Supply	...	Good	Yes—Satisfactory

16th July, 1945.

J. R. GARROOD, Medical Officer of Health.

PIPED WATER SUPPLIES.

Regional Water Scheme.

	Popula- tion 1931 Census	No. of Houses	No. of Houses supplied	Farm Premises supplied	No. of Services	Estimated Popula- tion supplied
Alconbury	492	150	117	6	67	384
Alconbury Weston	276	92	80	12	55	240
Buckworth	—	—	5	2	1	15
Conington	245	71	38	3	25	131
Abots Ripton	343	94	86	21	53	314
Kings Ripton	117	35	30	8	24	100
Sawtry	915	273	241	25	162	808
The Stukeleys	483	154	118	16	95	370
Upton & Coppingford	138	42	30	6	24	99
Upwood & The Raveleys	535	156	132	21	84	453
Woodwalton	362	68	54	8	37	287
	<u>3906</u>	<u>1135</u>	<u>931</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>627</u>	<u>3201</u>

Total quantity of water pumped in 1944 ...	104,810,000	gallons
Bulk supplies to Military establishments ...	79,156,000	"
Balance supplied in district ...	25,654,000	"
Average daily consumption in district ...	70,093	"
Average daily consumption per head of estimated population supplied ...	21.89	"

Gidding and Winwick Scheme.

	Popula- tion	No. of Houses	No. of Houses supplied	Farm Premises supplied	No. of Services	Estimated Popula- tion supplied
Gt. Gidding	274	81	70	9	53	237
Hamerton	121	41	32	7	Mains owned by Estate	94
Winwick	124	42	23	9	24	68
	<u>519</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>25</u>		<u>399</u>

*Total quantity of water supplied to Gt. Gidding and Winwick ...	1,237,000	gallons
Average per day ...	3,379	"
Average per head per day based on estimated population supplied ...	11.08	"

* As the supply to Hamerton commenced during 1944 the meter readings for that Parish have been deducted.

Most of the houses not connected are isolated and far removed
from the mains.

AN ANALYSIS.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of water labelled "Regional Water Scheme, Houghton Well (Untreated Water)" received on the 18th April, 1944, from W. Midwood, Esq., Huntingdon Rural District Council.

Physical Characters ... Good.
Reaction ... pH 7.8.

The sample contained—	parts per 100,000
Chlorine	4.55
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0064
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37 deg. C. ...	0.0477
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.20
Nitrites	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of microorganisms per ml. developing
on Agar at 37 deg. C. nil

Number of microorganisms per ml. developing
on Agar at 21 deg. C. 70

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS ... 20.66 degrees (grains pr gallon).

INFERENCE.

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidence of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is safe for drinking purposes.

It is, however, to be recommended that the supply be chlorinated.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

21st April, 1944.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspection of dwelling-houses in the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	21
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	45
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	1

Remedy of defects without service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	9
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Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—	
(a) by owners	0
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	9
(b) by Local Authorities in default of owners	0
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	
	0

Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		8
(2) Number of families dwelling therein		8
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein		65
B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		1
C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		2
(2) Number of persons concerned in such		13
D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding		0

There are very few empty houses in the district.

BAKEHOUSES.—All inspected and found generally to be clean and satisfactory.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk (Milk Sellers)—

No. in District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
No. registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
No. of Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
No. of Inspections during Milking Time	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
No. of Premises requiring Whitewashing, Cleansing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Premises with Well Water Supply—

No. of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
No. of, from which water analysed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nli

16th July, 1945.

W. MIDWOOD, *Sanitary Inspector.*

PREVELENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

			Cases	Death	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	...	...	11	—	4
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	9	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	3	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	71	1	—
Measles	...	...	40	—	—

Immunisation of School children, and others under 5 years old, has been continued. 92.5 per cent. of School children were protected; a number of schools were 100 per cent.

Tuberculosis.—The following table gives the particulars of the new cases of Tuberculosis, and deaths from the disease in the area in 1944.

Age Periods	Deaths				New Cases			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
45—55	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	—

